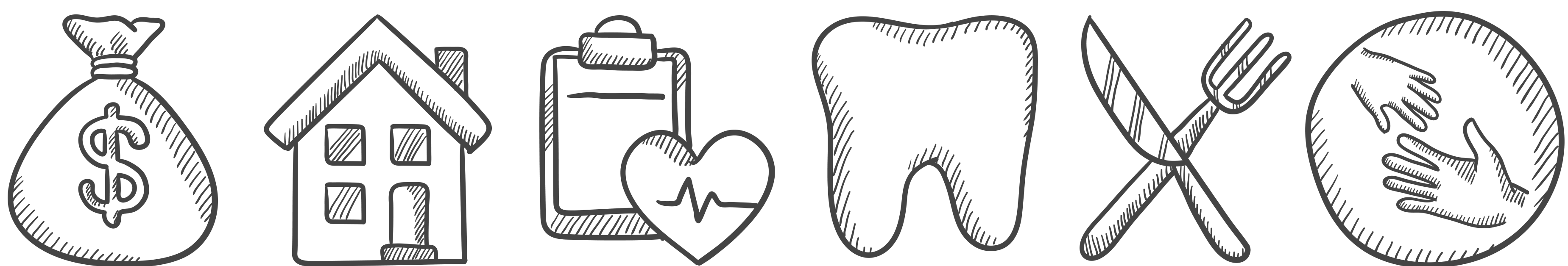


Wellington-Halton Hills Candidate Q & A

Federal Election 2019





QUESTION:

Will you and your party commit to the elimination of poverty in Canada? If yes, what actions will your party take to strengthen Canada’s poverty reduction strategy?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

I am absolutely committed to eliminating poverty in Canada. The Liberal party has promised further increases to the Child Care Benefit, increases to OAS of 10 % over age 75, and increasing the CPP Survivors Benefit. I think the most important thing the Liberal government has done to reduce poverty is to continue to invest in Canadians- particularly through education, housing and transit. And that is what they will continue to do if reelected.



Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party will tackle poverty with a Guaranteed Livable Income. This will ensure that all people who are affected by disruptions due to automation in the economy will have a floor income while retraining. It will also support those who are disabled or seniors. The Green Party will increase the CPP from 25 to 50% of worker's working wage. We will implement a pharmacare program and provide basic dental care to all low income people.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

What will you and your party do to ensure decent work for all, including living wages and fair working conditions?

Do you and your party support introducing a basic income guarantee?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

The Liberal government is creating the Canada Entrepreneur Account and will continue to support small business owners. We will continue to invest in infrastructure to support business and have negotiated trade deals to increase Canadians access to international markets. I personally support a living wage, labour rights and as a physician I know that fair working conditions are important to people's health and happiness.

Yes



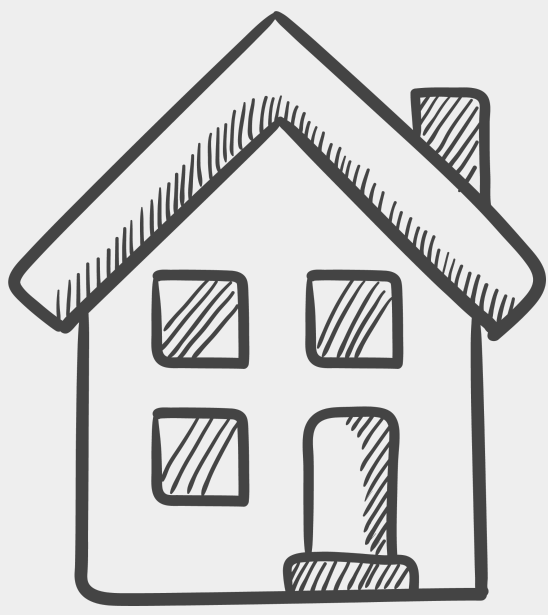
Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party will implement a national retrofit program of buildings to provide jobs including good jobs in the trades. This will also reduce heating cost and GHG emissions. The Green Party will also implement a Guaranteed Livable Income (like a negative income tax) to be sure that those who live in areas with high costs of living can at least have a livable income even if their wages do not quite them all the way to a livable income.

Yes

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

How will you and your party address the housing crisis, so that everyone has a place to call home?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

The first time home buyers grant program has helped thousands of Canadians buy their first home. In addition, we need to increase supply, which the Liberal government will do by imposing a vacancy tax on foreing homeowners who let housing stock sit empty. The Liberals will concentrate on building more affordable housing with Canada's first ever National Housing Strategy. I believe we need to ensure there is affordable secure housing for everyone.

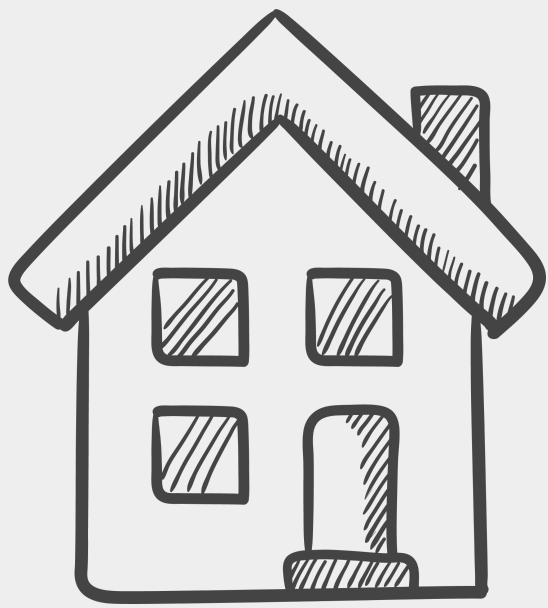


Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party will legislate housing as a legally protected fundamental human right for all Canadians and permanent residents. We will collaborate with provincial ministers to meet affordable housing needs with 25,000 new and 15,000 rehabilitated units annually, for 10 years, across Canada. The Green party will establish a universal Guaranteed Livable Income program to replace the current array of income supports, such as disability payments, social assistance and income supplements.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

Will you and your party commit to the elimination of homelessness in Canada? If yes, what actions will your party take to support this commitment?

Will your party support increased and targeted capital investments in affordable and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

Yes- being homeless is a huge problem and for every person who is homeless, 23 are precariously housed. I believe we need to increase supply of affordable housing, as well as measures like allowing gentle density and vacancy taxes as above. Increased investment in mental health and addiction supports will also be part of the strategy going forward.

Yes



Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

It is past time that the government of Canada moves to ensure that everyone has access to safe, affordable housing. The Green Party will enhance the federal government's contribution to meeting the housing needs of Canadians through direct investments, changes to tax policies, and lending and granting programs, putting the government's focus where it is urgently needed.

Yes

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

What actions will you and your party take to respond to the escalating impacts of mental health and addictions in our community?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

The Liberal party has pledged to work with the provinces to decrease wait time for access to mental health care. They will also work with provinces to ensure everyone has access to a family doctor or primary care team- often the first step in tackling many mental health issues, including addiction, is being able to connect with your family doctor or nurse practitioner, in order to be directed to the resources patients need.



Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party will restore the federal/provincial Health Accord, basing health transfers on demographics and real health care needs in each province, replacing the current formula based on GDP growth introduced by the Harper government and retained by the Liberals. We will prioritize expansion of mental health and rehabilitation services. We will support First Nations, Métis and Inuit in (re)building traditional knowledge systems around healing and wellness.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

In Canada, 3 million people do not fill their prescriptions for medication because they cannot afford it. How will your party ensure that everyone has access to prescription drug coverage, regardless of their income, age, or where they work or live?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

The Liberal party has pledged to follow the recommendations of the Council on Pharmacare and work with the provinces to implement a single payer pharmacare system. I think there are many great reasons to do this- decreasing drug costs for all Canadians and ensuring nobody is choosing between paying for medications or food. 20 % of Canadians have no drug coverage or inadequate drug coverage.

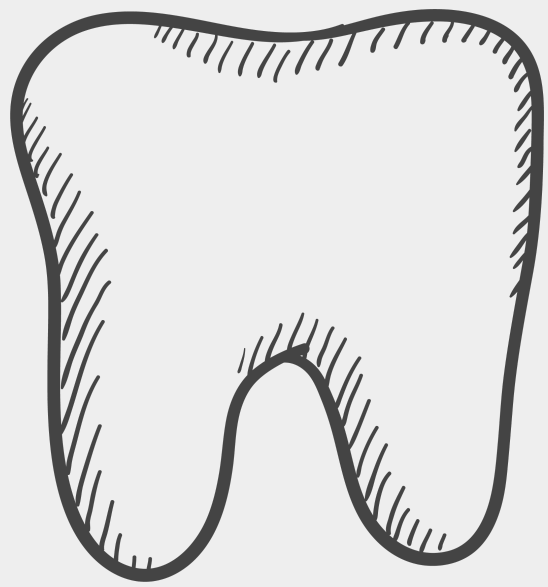


Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party supports the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Health to expand the Canada Health Act to include prescription drugs dispensed outside of a hospital. Universal Pharmacare is the best way to accomplish both life-saving and cost-cutting goals.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

An estimated 6 million Canadians do not see a dentist because they can't afford it. What actions will your party take to ensure dental care for all?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

Dental care is not part of the Liberal party platform, but personally as a physician, I believe the dental care system in Canada is broken and inadequate for many people's needs, especially those without insurance. I would certainly be committed to rectifying inadequate and inequitable access to dental care if elected as your MP.

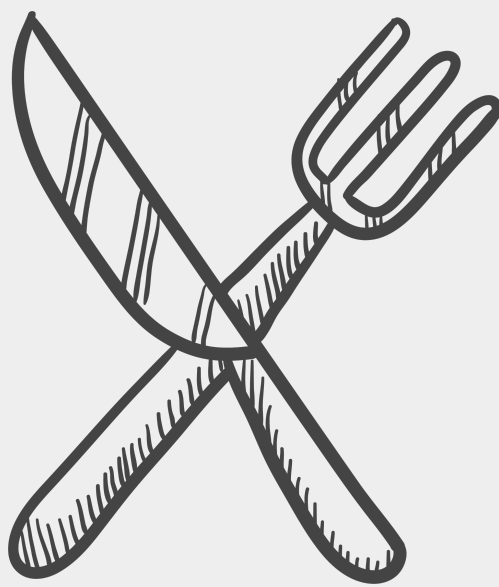


Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green party will expand the single-payer Medicare model to include Pharmacare for all and dental care for low-income Canadians.

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

Household food insecurity occurs when there is inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints. What actions will your party take to address food insecurity?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

The tax free exemption will increase to \$15000 from \$12000 putting more money back into the pockets of Canadians. The Old Age Security benefit will increase by 10%, meaning thousands of seniors will be lifted out of poverty as well.



Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

The Green Party will improve food security in northern communities by consulting with residents and working with non-profit groups to build greenhouses or hydroponic towers and funding education. We will invest \$2.5 million per year into land and quota trusts and farming apprenticeship programs and help new farmers get started. We will replace 1/3 of Canada's food imports with domestic production, increasing regional food self-reliance and recovering 15 billion food dollars for Canada

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.





QUESTION:

What actions will your party take to ensure families have access to quality early learning and childcare regardless of their income?



Lesley Barron, Liberal Party of Canada

I believe a well funded public education system is important for children. The Liberals have pledged to lower child care fees by 10 % for before and after school child care spaces. They have created tens of thousands of new pre school child care spaces as well. The Liberal party is also moving forward with support for early childhood educators, to ensure they are better paid and trained to take care of kids. The Liberals will work to lay groundwork for a national child care system.



Ralph Martin, Green Party of Canada

A Green government will collaborate with provinces/territories, local communities, Indigenous communities and the child-care sector to ensure that a comprehensive short-, medium- and long-term policy road map - based on the principles of universality, affordability, quality, inclusivity and equity - finally becomes a reality. Families need child care. Universal child care is fundamental for women's equality -the "ramp to equality in the workplace for women."

All candidates identified on the Elections Canada website for this riding were invited to participate. Candidates who completed the Q & A are represented above.